



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Arctic Field Office
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Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3844
<http://www.blm.gov/ak>



In reply refer to:
FF095389
2984.01 (AK012)

PLAN CONFORMANCE / NEPA COMPLIANCE RECORD

DOI-BLM-LLAKF01000-2009-0021-CX

Arctic Field Office, Bureau of Land Management

Applicant: Emily Weiser/ Abby Powell
University of Alaska Fairbanks
Department of Biology & Wildlife
P.O. Box 756100
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

Proposed Action: Glauous Gull Diet Study

Description of Proposed Action: The applicants, Emily Weiser and Abby Powell, with the University of Alaska Fairbanks have requested authorization for field activity access and landing by a helicopter, on lands within the National Petroleum Reserve Alaska (NPR-A), in support of avian research. The applicants are proposing to conduct a Glauous Gull Diet Study from June 22nd through August 15th.

The proposed action would authorize Emily Weiser and Abby Powell to conduct avian studies on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The participants would be flown on a North Slope Borough (NSB) helicopter from Barrow to each work site. There are 5 proposed work sites (Tusikvoak Lake, Kurgorak, Topagoruk, Cape Simpson and Simpson Landing Strip) within BLM managed lands. Each site would be accessed once in June and once in August. Proposed work at each site would include collecting gull pellets and food remains and recording reproductive data. They would be walking through each colony, and using small inflatable boats to capture chicks on the nest ponds. The proposed work at Tusikvoak would include 2 hours of work per colony, travel time on foot between the two colonies, and perhaps an overnight stay in a tent depending on the helicopter schedules. The other 4 sites would entail approximately 2-3 hours of work on site. The applicants conducted similar work last summer under a BLM permit.

Location: (All Umiat Meridian)

Place	Township	Range	Section
Tusikvoak Lake	20 North	17 West	13,14,23,24
Kurgorak	19 North	13 West	20-22,27-29
Topagoruk	16 North	16 West	10-15,22-24
Simpson Landing Strip	20 North	11 West	21,22,27,28(Excluding Private Lands)
Cape Simpson	20 North	12 West	6,7

Part I: Plan Conformance Review

The proposed action is subject to the following planning document: Northwest National Petroleum Reserve-Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) dated 1/22/2004. The proposed action is not inconsistent with the purposes of the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976. The applicant will be provided with stipulations entitled "FF095389 Emily Weiser & Abby Powell UAF Summer Stipulations 2009" and "PROGRAMMATIC BIOLOGICAL OPINION for the Bureau of Land Management Summer Activities in 2009 in Undeveloped Areas of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska."

Date June 10, 2009

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office

Part II: NEPA Review

Categorical Exclusion Review.

This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215

"Nondestructive data collection, inventory (including field, aerial, and satellite surveying and mapping), study, research, and monitoring activities."

The proposed action has been reviewed to determine if any of the exceptions described in 43 CFR 46.210 and 46.215, apply.

Date June 10, 2009

/s/Donna L. Wixon
Natural Resource Specialist, Arctic Field Office